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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q58056

Yoshiaki INOUE

Appln. No.: 09/686,618

Group Art Unit: 2626

Confirmation No.: 5489

Examiner: Madeleine A.V. NGUYEN

Filed: October 12, 2000

For: APPARATUS FOR AND METHOD OF OUTPUTTING IMAGE

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

**ATTN: MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**REMARKS**

Applicant offers the following comments in response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance set forth on pages 2 and 3 of the Notice of Allowability dated June 6, 2005.

The Examiner concedes that Fujisawa does not disclose the claimed curves that are different stepwise and uses Fig. 6 of the present application as an example of curves that are stepwise different.

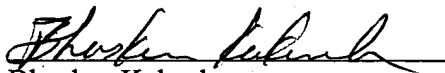
Applicants respectfully submits that Fig. 6 illustrates non-limiting examples of curves that are different stepwise and that the present invention is not limited to just these curves.

Patent Office personnel are requested to note that the present submission does not adversely affect the patent term adjustment accrued by the Applicant to date. As emphasized in the "Clarification of 37 C.F.R. §1.704(c)(10) – Reduction of Patent Term Adjustment for Certain

Types of Papers Filed After a Notice of Allowance Has Been Mailed,” 1247OG111 (6/26/01), “a response to the examiner’s reasons for allowance” is an example of a paper that does “not cause substantial interference and delay in the patent issue process” and is “not considered a ‘failure to engage in reasonable efforts’ to conclude processing or examination of the application.”

Therefore, the Applicant remains entitled to the full patent term adjustment set forth on page 3 of the Notice of Allowance dated June 6, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: August 8, 2005